

STATE OF COLORADO

OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

130 State Capitol
Denver, Colorado 80203-1792
Phone: (303) 866-2087



Jane E. Norton
Lieutenant Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Wednesday, October 15, 2003

CONTACT: Garrett Groves
303-866-3125

Promoting Colorado Aerospace and Defense is Focus of Landmark Roundtable Discussion

Lieutenant Governor Jane Norton, United States Senator Wayne Allard, Director Tim Fritz of Colorado's Office of Aerospace and Aeronautics and the Metro Denver Chamber of Commerce Host Productive Exchange

(DENVER) – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard, Lieutenant Governor Jane Norton, and Tim Fritz, Director of the Colorado Office of Aerospace and Aeronautics, jointly hosted a landmark round table discussion geared toward promoting space through coordinated initiatives in Washington D.C. and the State of Colorado. Representatives from Colorado's congressional delegation, state legislature, military installations, business and economic development organizations, aerospace and aeronautics businesses participated in an informal two-hour roundtable this past Monday, October 13, 2003. Attendees met to discuss opportunities and strategies for growing the aerospace and defense industries in Colorado through a more coordinated effort between Federal and State officials.

“Director Fritz and I have been touring aerospace and defense stakeholders throughout the state and continue to hear of the need for a more coordinated effort among Colorado's Federal and State officials. This forum was a great catalyst for such coordination between Senator Allard's D.C. based Space Power Caucus and our efforts in state government,” said Norton.

One highlight of the discussion was Allard's briefing on his founding of the Space Power Caucus in Washington D.C. The bi-partisan, bi-cameral caucus was formed in Congress to focus attention on our nation's space interests, and is co-chaired by Allard and Rep. Jane Harman, D-CA. The caucus sponsors briefings, base visits, and meetings with military, government and industry leaders throughout the year. “In Colorado, the Office of Aerospace and Aeronautics within the Governor's Office of Innovation and Technology (OIT) is one of the best channels we have to orchestrate the aerospace and defense industry's issues at the state level. With focused coordination from Director Fritz, and the leadership of Lt. Governor Norton, Colorado can help ensure that its delegation will speak with the power of a common voice in Washington, D.C.,” said Allard (R-CO).

Governor Bill Owens created the Office of Aerospace and Aeronautics on June 1st of this year, and efforts by Owens and Secretary of Technology John Hansen led to State Representative Tim Fritz, R-Loveland, being appointed as its first director.

- more -

“Governor Owens and I agree that Colorado’s rich history and tremendous assets in our nation’s space program and military commands make the aerospace and defense industry one of state’s most important economic engines. This has led to the elevation of Governor Owens’ efforts for the industry in the creation of a director-level position within OIT,” said Hansen.

The Roundtable, attended by a broad range of aerospace representatives from public and private sectors, raised issues which were taken up by Director Fritz, and Lt. Governor Jane Norton, who was appointed Colorado’s delegate to the Aerospace States Association by Governor Bill Owens. Fritz also serves as the alternate delegate. Senator Allard, Lt. Governor Norton, and Director Fritz, used the forum to point to an ongoing partnership between Federal and State officials on behalf of the industry. They will use the outcome of this first session to identify priorities for maintaining a strong aerospace and defense industry in Colorado.

Among the areas discussed were:

- Primary Issues Facing the Aerospace Industry and Military Commands in Colorado
- Coordinating Colorado’s Aerospace Effort and Colorado’s Congressional Delegation
- Comparative Discussion of Colorado to Other Leading Aerospace States
- Formation of the Governor’s Advisory Council to the Office of Aerospace and Aeronautics.

Attendees at the Roundtable were:

Congressional Delegates

U.S. Senator Wayne Allard

U.S. Representative Mark Udall

Sean Conway, Chief of Staff for U.S. Senator Wayne Allard

Marge Klein, Deputy District Director for U.S. Representative Bob Beauprez

B.J. Nikkel, District Director for U.S. Representative Marilyn Musgrave

Jacque Ponder, Chief of Staff for U.S. Representative Tom Tancredo

Colorado State Legislators

State Senator Ron May

State Representative Bill Cadman

State Representative Ted Harvey

State Representative Keith King

State Representative Gregg Rippy

State Representative Al White

William Mutch, Legislative Assistant for Senate President John Andrews

- more -

Military and Industry Representatives

General Lance W. Lord, AFSPC
Rick Adam, Adam Aircraft
Jim Barry, Northrop Grumman
Dr. Jack Burns, University of Colorado
George Bye, Aviation Technology Group
Ralph Christie, Merrick & Company
Drew Couch, Ball Aerospace
Robert Dalal, Space Imaging
Stephen Dolbey, Analex Corporation
William Hoffman, Webster University
Ray Kalibaba, Raytheon
Joe Lehman, Lockheed Martin
Steve Meyer, Boeing
Elliot Pulham, Space Foundation
John Roth, Microsat Systems
Linda Strine, Space and Business Roundtable
Scott Tibbit, Starsys
Antony Williams, Booz, Allen & Hamilton

Colorado Economic Development Representatives

Joe Blake, Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce
Jacob Castillo, Northern Colorado Economic Development Corporation
Preston Gibson, Jefferson Economic Development Council
Dick Hinson, Aurora Economic Development Council
John Huggins, Denver Mayor's Office of Economic Development
Doak Jacoway, Jacoway Financial Corporation
Don Kortz, Fuller & Company
Rocky Scott, Greater Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation

###